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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 10/092,834 | 03/07/2002 | Bertram Geck | 2001P22391 US | 9442 |

7590 11/28/2005

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| EXAMINER |
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PHAM, BRENDA H

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| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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2664

DATE MAILED: 11/28/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/092,834

Applicant(s)

GECK ET AL.

Examiner

Brenda Pham

Art Unit

2664

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 March 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7, 10-13, 15-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 8, 9, 14, 19 and 20 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 07 March 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 03/07/02.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-20 are pending in this application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-5, 10-12, 15-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by SALLBERG et al (US 6,353,620).

Claims 1-5, 10-12, 15-16, SALLBERG et al disclose a method and a communication network for managing connections to a communications network, said method comprising the steps of: detecting the presence of an interface connection to a communications line; initializing said interface connection to said communications line for a first signaling protocol; checking whether said interface connection has initialized successfully and, if said check indicates that said interface connection has not initialized successfully, initializing said interface connection for a second signaling protocol (see figure 1, column 2, lines 5-67).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 6-7, 13, 17-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over SALLBERG et al (US 6,353,620 B1) in view of CHOI (US 6,457,056 B1).

Claims 6-7, 13, 17-18, as explained in the rejection statement of claims 1, 10 and 15, SALLBERG et al disclose all the claim limitation of claims 1, 10 and 15 (parent claims). Although SALLBERG et al does not teach wherein first signaling protocol is common channel signaling (CCS) and said second signaling protocol is channel associated signaling (CAS), this limitation is well known in the art and is taught by CHOI, in according to figure 4 and column 4, lines 50-67).

CHOI teach the call control unit 204 uses a standard interface indicating whether the process succeeds or not about a protocol process request and the requested protocol process result through the system bus. Here, the call control unit 204 manages a call process state about a line management of each c C and a wanted protocol (Channel association signaling (CAS) or common channel signaling (CCS) protocol) and control an allocation and the release of the trunk channel and has an internal control logic in order to a switching operation about the digital highway (column 4, lines 64-67, column 5, lines 1-5).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to those having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to implement the method of SALLBERG et al, using common channel signaling (CCS) and channel associated signaling (CAS).

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 8, 9, 14, 19 and 20 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: the prior art made of record does not teach or fairly suggests in combination wherein, the initializing step comprises: downloading CCS interface parameters from a communications server; waiting for an interface ready signal; and initiating layer 2 negotiations, an indication of successful layer 2 negotiations indicating successful CCS initialization.

The prior art fails to teach or fairly suggests in combination wherein, the initializing step comprises: downloading CAS interface parameters from a communications server; waiting for an interface ready signal; and initiating a CAS interface, an indication of a valid CAS interface indicating successful CAS initialization.

Art Unit: 2664

Conclusion

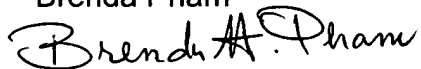
7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brenda Pham whose telephone number is (571) 272-3135. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9:00 to 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wellington Chin, can be reached on (571) 272-3134.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-2600.

November 16, 2005

Brenda Pham

Brenda A. Pham